(b) the number of projects sanctioned and actually completed in the above areas; and

(c) the number of mandays of employment generated under various JRY schemes in the above area;

THE MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA): (a) An amount of Rs. 438.92 lakhs have been released as central share of assistance under JRY to Thane district of Maharashtra as on date during the year 1996-97. Taluka-wise releases are not being made under JRY at central level.

(b) The JRY is an on going centrally sponsored scheme. Under JRY the schemes are prepared and implemented by the State Government through DRDA/Zilla Parishad/Village Panchayat. The information of schemes taken up at the district/Taluka/village level is not monitored at the central level.

(c) 5.92 lakhs mandays have been reported as generated in Thane district upto September, 1996 during 1996-97.

Joint production of Hydro-power by India and Nepal

753. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India and Nepal have been jointly making efforts to generate hydro-electicity;

(b) if so, the details of the power projects proposed to be set up by both the countries; and

(c) the quantum of hydro-power expected to be generated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Governments of India and Nepal have constituted joint technical experts groups for hydro-electric projects in Nepal for guidance for investigation and preparation of detailed project reports. These projects are:—

1. Kernali	10800 MW
2. Pancheshwar	2000 MW (4000 MW in ultimate stage)
3. Kosi	3300 MW
4. Burhi Gandaki	600 MW
Total	16700 MW

Rural Electric Cooperatives Financed by REC

754. DR. JAGANNATH MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of Rural Electric Cooperatives which have so far been promoted and financed by Rural Eelctrification Corporation;

(b) whether it is a fact that most of the States do not have even a single cooperative and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps have been taken for spreading the Rural Electric Cooperatives during the last two years and with what results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) Rural Electrification Corporation has so far promoted & financed 41 Rural Electric Cooperatives in the country.

(b) There are 18 States which presently do not have any Rural Electric Cooperative Societies. "Cooperatives" being a State subject, the setting up of rural electric cooperatives is dependent upon the State Government's policy, support at the local level and an environment conducive for the setting up of such cooperative societies. Inadequate response from some State Governments/State Electricity Boards has been the major reason for not having a single Rural Electric Cooperative in such States.